Countless Time

http://countless-time.tasuu.net/forum
http://countless-time.tasuu.net
#ct@irc.irchighway.net

Scanner:
Lychee

Cleaner:
MinakoHi

Translator:
danna

Proofreader:
iisei

Editor:
Kyuu

Qcer:
Aiko

~Touzandou Tentsui Ibun ~
volume 1, chapter 1

Mangaka: Shungiku Nakamura
Published by: Asuka Comics CL DX
ISBN: 4-04-853850-0

NAKAMURA SHUNGIKU

ASUKA COMICS CL-DX

東山道転隊異聞 1

とうざんどうてんついいぶん

中村春菊

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中村春菊

ASUKA COMICS CLDX

9784048538503

1920979005600

ISBN4-04-853850-0

C0979 ¥560E

角川書店／定価：本体560円（税別）

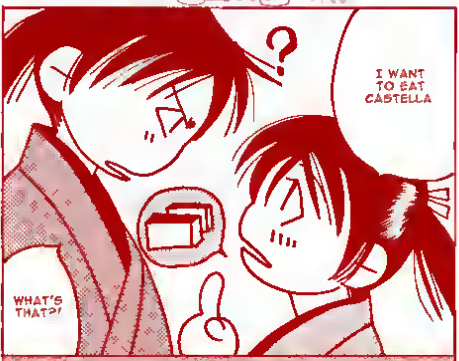
He was robbed of his position as the heir and hunted down by his own stepmother. While escaping, the impoverished Shuri happened to meet Gunji, who was the spitting image of his older brother and attendant Shuri loved the most – Heikurou. From then on, they began living together. But though Gunji was willing to sacrifice himself to ward off Shuri's pursuers, Shuri was ?

The first volume interweaves an old love tale between a clumsy, violent ronin samurai and a naive young master. Accompanied with it is a 66-page modern love story – "Red tears" and the extra part.

Love, sorrow
Tenderness, and agony
Please carve them all
Upon me——

角川書店

look at me!



Frost Moon (Day) 10 ☼ Sunny

Today, when I told Gunji,
"I want to eat Castella,"
he asked me in return,
"What's that?!"
Can it be that poor people
have never eaten that
cake at all?

kyy yaa!!

Shungiku Nakamura

FROST MOON: THE ELEVENTH MONTH IN LUNAR CALENDAR
CASTELLA: A SPONGE CAKE MADE OF SUGAR, FLOUR, EGGS AND STARCH SYRUP. ALSO SPELLED KASUTERA

ASUKA COMICS CL DX

東山道転隊異聞

とうさんどうてんたいいぶん

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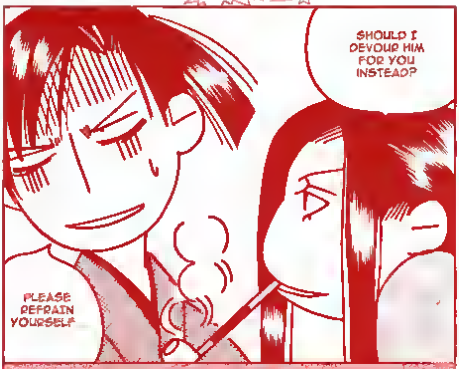
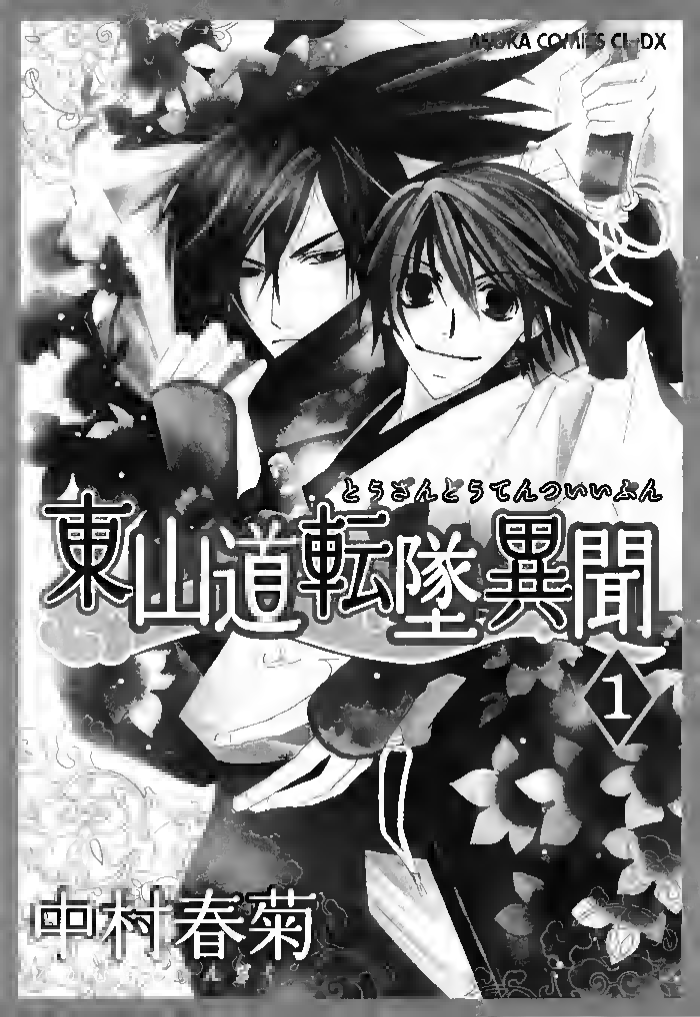
中村春菊

角川書店



Frost Moon (Day) II Cloudy

Today, I went to ask Saizou, "What is Castella?" He smirked and said that it meant "I want to devour the young master... " From now on, I'll never ask that bastard anything ever again...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Touzandou Tentsui Ibun <1>

Touzandou Tentsui Ibun Part 1 5

Touzandou Tentsui Ibun Part 2 – Silver Pipe 53

Touzandou Tentsui Ibun Part 3 – Home Leaving Crave 103

Touzandou Tentsui Ibun Extra 151

Red Tears 157

Afterword 223

Notice 224

IT'LL BE OKAY
SHURI-SAMA IS SHURI-SAMA RIGHT?
LINEAGE POSESSIONS SOCIAL STANDARD
WHEN ALL OF THOSE THINGS HAVE DISAPPEARED WHAT IS IT THAT WE HAVE LEFT BEHIND?
I CAN'T DO ANYTHING WITHOUT YOU
BUT
IF THAT'S THE CASE
I'LL STAY BY YOUNG MASTER'S SIDE UNTIL YOU GET TIRED OF ME

SLASH!
HEIKUROU!!
HEIKUROU!!
PLEASE HURRY AND RUN AWAY!
NO!!

TOUZANDOU TENTSUU IBUN
PART 1

SNORE
chirp
chirp

THEN AT LEAST YOU CAN KEEP YOUR OWN HEAD!!
SNORE
NN
SHURI-DONO!! PLEASE HAND OVER THAT DAGGER!!

YOU LEAVE US NO OTHER CHOICE
KILL HIM!!
THUD THUD
SHUT THE HELL UP!
WHO D EVER HAND IT OVER TO YOU?!
clang
IF YOU INSIST..
CHEAK
OIE!!
Vhoosh!
ARH!

!!
RETREAT! EVERY-BODY, RETREAT!!
AAGH!
thud thud
flick
flide
SWOOSH

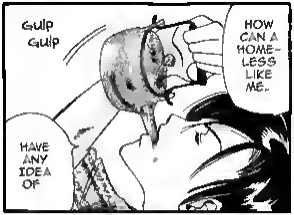
IDIOT!!
DON'T BE SO RECKLESS IF YOU CAN'T DRAW YOUR SWORD PROPERLY IN THE FIRST PLACE!
stare
GOOD GRIEF !!
SNIP
HEI.
HEIKUROU!!
WHAT?
EH?
WHY DIDN'T YOU COME EARLIER?
HEIKUROU, YOU'RE STILL ALIVE?
DO YOU KNOW HOW I'VE BEEN FEELING
EH?

I'M SORRY, BUT YOU ARE MISTAKEN
NICE TO MEET YOU
I'M HIS YOUNGER BROTHER SUNOI
WHAT?
NO
ISN'T THAT OBVIOUS?
ARE YOU, BY ANY CHANCE THE YOUNG MASTER SHUDI MATSUDAIRA?
DID YOU FORGET ABOUT ME?!
TWISTERED
SQUEEZE
BUT IT'S ALRIGHT NOW..
EXCUSE ME...
BY "HEIKUROU" DO YOU MEAN "HEIKUROU TACHIMI?"

BY THE WAY, COULD YOU TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED JUST NOW?
IF YOU WERE JUST PLAYING TAG, THEN IT WENT A LITTLE TOO FAR

GOOBLE
GOOBLE
GOOBLE

.....
GOOBLE
GOOBLE


Gulp
Gulp
HOW CAN A HOMELESS LIKE ME..
HAVE ANY IDEA OF

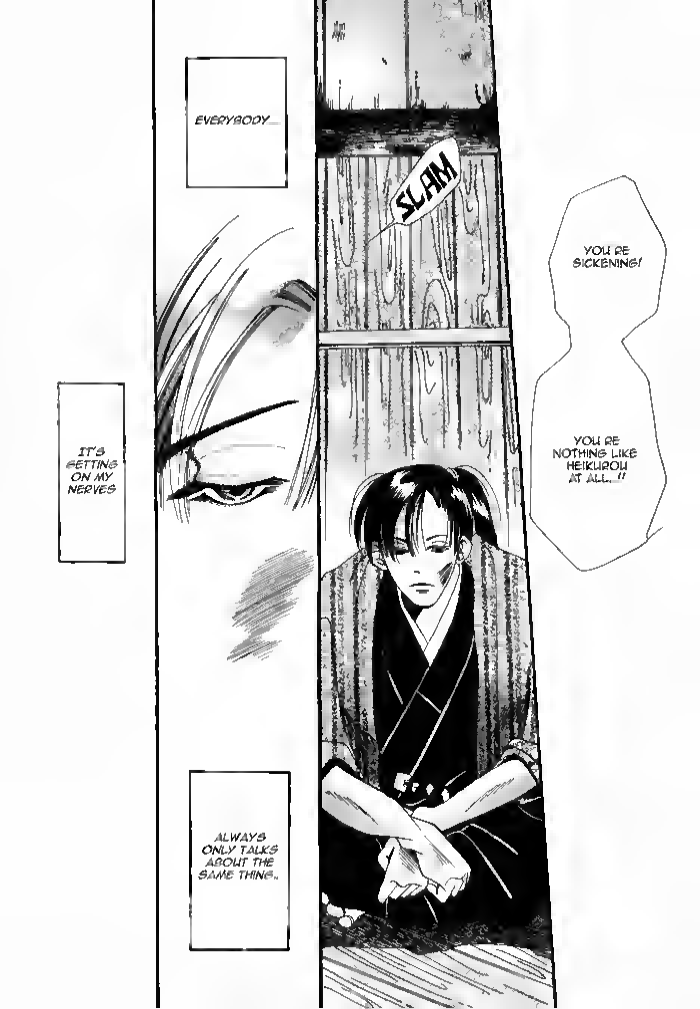
ALSO WHERE'S MY BROTHER?
ISN'T HE YOUR ATTENDANT?
YOU HAVEN'T HEARD ANYTHING..?

HE'S DEAD

DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT OUR FAMILY'S AFFAIRS?
MY STEPMOTHER WANTS HER OWN SON TO INHERIT ALL THE POSSESSIONS.
I HEARD THAT YOUR FATHER HAD PASSED AWAY.
SO SHE FORMED A PLAN TO GET RID OF ME THE OFFICIAL HEIR
WH..IT FAMILY STRIFE!
BEFORE ANYONE KNEW, EVEN THE VASSAL HAD CHANGED TO STAND BY MY STEPMOTHER.
roll
AND I HAD NO OTHER CHOICE BUT TO LEAVE THE CASTLE WITH HEIKUROU.

THEN, IN ORDER TO PROTECT ME FROM THE PURSUERS, HEIKUROU WAS...
YET, THAT WOMAN STILL CHASED AFTER US TO GET THIS DAGGER
BECAUSE WITHOUT THIS, HER SON WOULD NEVER BE RECOGNIZED AS THE OFFICIAL HEIR.
I CAN'T FORGIVE MYSELF...
IT'S JUST LIKE I'M THE VERY ONE WHO KILLED HEIKUROU..
WHO ARE YOU CALLING RIDICULOUS?!
ARE YOU KIDDING ME? HOW CAN HE BE THAT RIDICULOUS?!
BAM
sob sob sob
drip drip
DAMN...

THAT'S NOT IT!
I JUST CAN'T APPROVE OF HIS VAIN DEATH!!
SLAP
ISN'T THAT RIGHT? DYING FOR A MERE SWORD... HE'S THE BIGGEST FOOL EVER!!
ARE THOSE WORDS YOU SPEAK ABOUT SOMEONE WHO'S DEAD?!
INSULT HEIKUROU !!
DON'T EVER


EVERYBODY...
SLAM
YOU'RE SICKENING!
YOU'RE NOTHING LIKE HEIKUROU AT ALL...!!
IT'S GETTING ON MY NERVES
ALWAYS ONLY TALKS ABOUT THE SAME THING..

WHY ARE YOU SO DIFFERENT FROM HEIKUROU?
DAY AND NIGHT, YOU DO NOTHING BUT LAZE AROUND.
CAN'T YOU IMITATE YOUR BROTHER, EVEN JUST A LITTLE BIT?
AND TO THINK THAT I RAISED YOU BOTH JUST THE SAME...
I...
I USED TO WORK VERY HARD AS WELL.
REALLY ...
BUT FATHER...
I DON'T WANT TO LISTEN TO YOUR EXCUSES!!
WHY DO YOU HATE ME SO MUCH?
SO IT'S BETTER NOT DO ANYTHING RIGHT FROM THE START
THAT'S THE WAY THINGS ARE
BUT UNLESS I REACHED THE SAME LEVEL AS MY BROTHER MY EFFORTS WOULD NEVER BE ACKNOWLEDGED

I DON'T HATE YOU

GUNJI IS GUNJI.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO CARE ABOUT WHAT OTHERS SAY.

.....
YOU'RE SO SIMILAR TO SHURI-SAMA.

HOW DISGUSTING
IT'S FINE. I ALREADY GAVE UP ON MYSELF AND ON ALL OTHER PEOPLE AROUND ME.

EH?
ALWAYS TRYING TO CREATE AN EASY ROUTE FOR YOURSELF

I HATE YOU.
BECAUSE YOU COULD ALWAYS SEE THROUGH MY HEART...

NOW THAT I'M AWARE OF IT, YOUR CHAR-ACTER IS REALLY LIKE MINE.
WHAT?!
ARE YOU USING ME TO KILL TIME?
...AND THEN LEFT ME BEHIND WITH NOTHING BUT THAT FEELING OF FAILURE
STOP FOLLOWING ME!!
SHUT UP, BARBARIAN!
SHUT UP, YOU SNOTTY BRAT!!
STOP JOKING AROUND!! HOW CAN I BE SIMILAR TO YOU OF ALL PEOPLE?!
THAT'S MY LINE! HOW CAN I BE SIMILAR TO A GODDAMN YOUNGSTER LIKE YOU?!
SHAKE
YOU, WHO DO YOU THINK YOU'RE TALKING TO?
HA!
UNFORT-UNATELY, I'M NOT A SERVANT OF YOURS!

WHAT?
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! HOW COULD SUCH A GUY BE HEIKUROU'S BROTHER?
turn away
Yank
WHENEVER YOU OPEN YOUR MOUTH, YOU ONLY TALK ABOUT HEIKUROU, HEIKUROU
WERE YOU IN LOVE WITH HIM OR WHAT?
THA-DUMP

smile
SHURI-SAMA
thud thud
STOP
STOP IT!!
shocked
HEIKU
ROU

MUSS MUSS
SORRY
I WENT TOO FAR

SHH
WE HAVE SOME GUESTS
Stare
RUSTLE
Shove
LET GO!
Smack
DEEP INCH
SWOOSH
FLY!
Thunk
Thunk
Thunk

KYAAH!
DAMN!
CLANG
ZAP
ZAP
ZAP
YOU SNOT!
GYAAH!
KYAAH!

snatch
NO!
HAND ME THAT DAGGER!!
IDIOT!! WHAT'S MORE IMPORTANT YOUR LIFE OR THIS?!
THAT'S THE ONLY THING I WON'T EVER GIVE UP!!
DO YOU REALLY WANT TO BE THE LORD THAT MUCH?!
@UNJI!!
THIS KID
WHAT IS IT THAT HE'S SO SCARED OF?

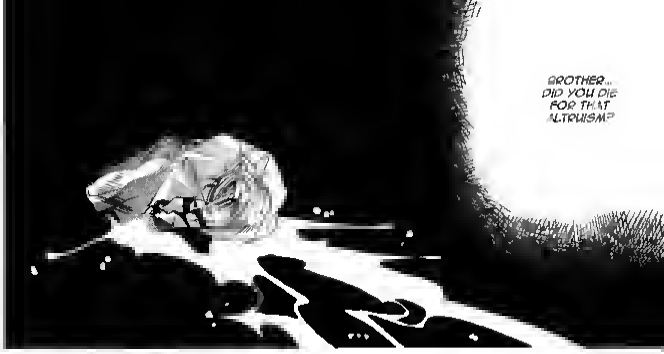
SHIT!!
AV
UKSI
NN
SCreech
WHOO
SH
SHURI!!

WHAT IS IT THAT YOU'RE SO SCARED OF?

HAVE YOU EVER PUT YOURSELF IN MY POSITION OF BEING COMPARED TO YOU?
I'VE GOTTEN SICK OF IT!
"WHAT IS IT," YOU ASKED
YOU'RE THE GREAT BROTHER WHO CAN EASILY HANDLE ANYTHING
DIDN'T YOU
TRY TO DO SOMETHING WHILE AT IT?
IT'LL LEAD TO NOTHING IF WILL IS ALL YOU HAVE
AND I'LL NEVER STRAIN MYSELF FOR MEANINGLESS ENDEAVORS
"WHAT IF THEY STILL DON'T ACKNOWLEDGE ME EVEN WHEN I'VE RISKED MY OWN LIFE?"
"WHERE THE HELL CAN I BE?"
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
"AM I THAT FRIGHTENING?"
GURARA

I DON'T WANT TO UNDERSTAND THEM, EITHER.
THOSE ARE EXCUSES OF SOMEONE WHO SELFISHLY RUNS AWAY ALL THE TIME.
"IT'S TOO HORRIFYING."
"THAT BEING THE CASE, IT'D BE BETTER FOR EVERYONE IF I NEVER TRY ANYTHING RIGHT FROM THE START."
STAND
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND ANYTHING!!
YOU DON'T HAVE THAT MUCH CONFIDENCE...
IF YOU'RE DISGUSTED, WHY DON'T YOU DO SOMETHING TO LEAVE?
DON'T YOU REALIZE YOU'RE THE MOST EGOTISTICAL AROUND HERE?
DON'T YOU HAVE ENOUGH COURAGE TO LOOK AT YOUR OWN SELF IN THE FIRST PLACE?
OR...
POOF!

GUNJI
"TO GIVE UP" DOESN'T MEAN "TO STAND STILL"
BUT "TO PROGRESS"
INDEED. IT'S NOT A VERY ALTRUISTIC THING.
IF YOU ONLY CRAVE TO MOVE FORWARD


BROTHER... DID YOU DIE FOR THAT ALTRUISM?

UHH
GUNJI!! HAVE YOU REGAINED CONSCIOUSNESS?

THANK GOD..
PHEW!

YOU COLLAPSED AS SOON AS WE GOT HERE
EH ?
REALLY?

ACTUALLY I DON'T CARE WHETHER OR NOT I BECOME THE LORD
THEN WHY DON'T YOU QUICKLY LET GO OF THAT DAGGER?
IT'S BECAUSE HEIKUROU DIED
.....
NOT AGAIN
HAVE YOU ANY IDEA HOW I'VE BEEN LIVING THUS FAR?
A WELL OFF, ENVIABLE LIFE
SOUNDS AWFUL DOESN'T IT?
I WAS SO CAREFULLY WRAPPED UP IN COTTON WOOL
THAT I BECAME AFRAID
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I WOULD DO IF ONE DAY ALL THOSE THINGS DISAPPEARED

I WAS SO AFRAID I DIDN'T DARE TO MOVE FORWARD
LETTING GO OF THIS DAGGER WOULD MEAN I'D BE NOTHING MORE THAN JUST HUMBLE SHURI MATSUDAIRA
SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T KNOW ANYTHING SOMEONE WHO CAN'T HANDLE EVEN THE MOST ORDINARY OF THINGS IN THE WORLD
WHY...
YET...
HEIKUROU WAS
SHURI-SAMA IS SHURI-SAMA RIGHT?

HE WAS THE ONLY ONE TO NOTICE ME AS A HUMAN BEING...
THE CRUCIAL PART IS MERELY TO TAKE THAT VERY FIRST STEP
IF THAT'S THE CASE, I WANT YOU TO WALK WITH ME
I WAS HORRIBLY HAPPY...
I UNDERSTAND...
THEN WE'LL DO IT TOGETHER
UNTIL YOUNG MASTER GETS TIRED OF ME...

pissed
BEEZ
WHAT'S UP WITH THAT TONE?
BECAUSE MY BROTHER DIED TOO SOON?
SO YOU FAILED TO HAND OVER THAT DAGGER
MAN
SIGH
DO YOU...
HAVE TO BE SO SIMILAR TO ME?
!
HEIKUROU USED TO TELL ME THAT
GUNJI COULD DO EVERYTHING AS LONG AS HE YEARNED TO DO IT WITH ALL HIS MIGHT
I CAN'T COMPARE TO YOU AT ALL
BEEZ!!
HOW CAN YOU KNOW THAT IF YOU NEVER TRY?!
IF YOU DON'T

BAM
YOU LITTLE SNOT! HAND OVER THAT DAGGER TO THEM
MY BROTHER WOULD DEFINITELY BE HAPPIER THAT WAY
B-BUT...
Aagh!
DON'T WORRY!
IF NECESSARY, I'LL SPEND MY WHOLE LIFE TAKING CARE OF YOU!!

silence~
AH
BUT
.....
HOW-EVER
SIGH
SIGH OF DISMAY
I'M VERY GRATEFUL THAT YOU WANT TO STAY BY MY SIDE
THAT'S ONE OF THE THINGS I "CAN'T TURN MY BACK ON"
BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO..
MY BROTHER USED TO SHUT ME UP USING THAT SENTENCE..

THIS IS
THE AUTHENTIC DAGGER YOUR MASTER YEARNINGS FOR
snap
.....
SO YOU'VE FINALLY MADE UP YOUR MIND?!
GUNJI
DO AS THEY SAY.
WHAT?
THE MAN BEHIND! COULD YOU PLEASE DRAW BACK A LITTLE?

SHU...
BESIDES THIS WE ALSO RECEIVED ONE MORE ORDER FROM THE MASTER TO DELIVER A MESSAGE TO YOU
PLEASE...
GO TO HELL!!
GOTO
SHU
!!

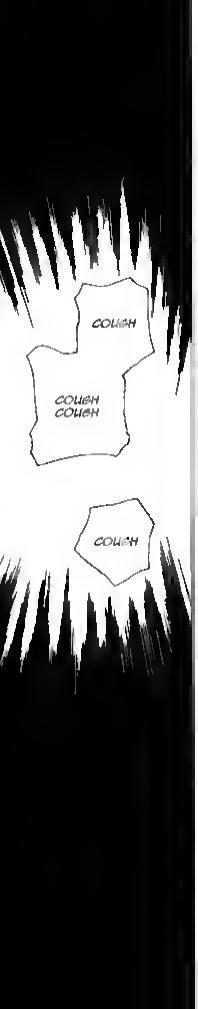
CLANG
THAT'S FOR MY BROTHER!

HEIKU-ROU?!
ARE YOU CRAZY? THAT GUY'S ALREADY DEAD!!
AAARGH!
chop
SLASH SLASH SLASH SLASH
GET AWAY FROM HERE!!
RETREAT !!
CUT
SLASH SLASH
AAH!

swoosh
UWAH!
HURRY UP!
tank
AH!
GE-EZ-
patter patter
zaaa

moving fowards
WHAT?
CAN YOU SWIM?
EH?
AH...
ROAR
SPLASH

CRAP



AND EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE!

IF YOU KEEP MOVING FORWARD THERE'LL BE NOTHING TO BE SCARED OF...

BECAUSE IT'S YOU,

DO IT IN YOUR OWN WAY

HEY

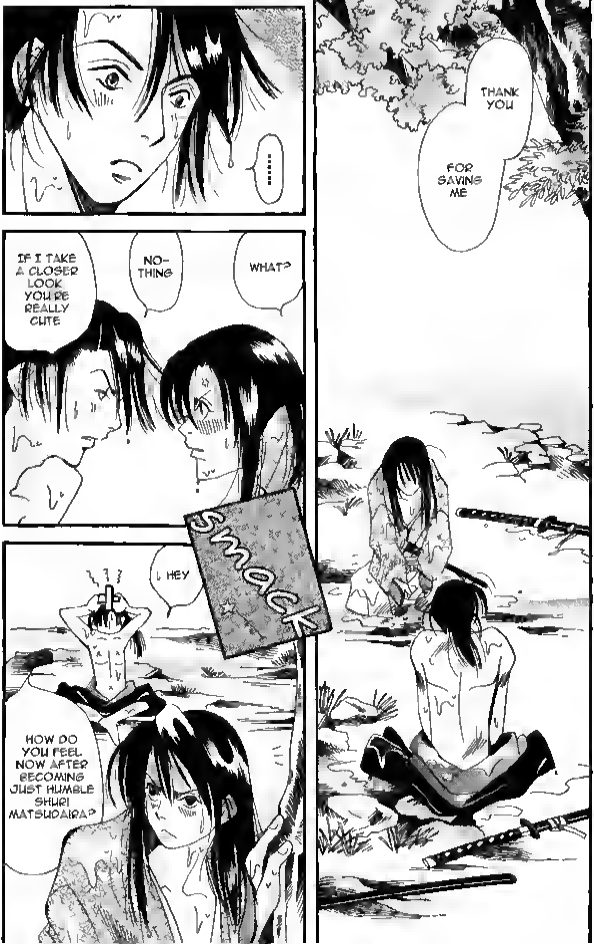
SUNJI

IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO ME PLEASE HELP ME TAKE CARE OF THE YOUNG MASTER

WHY ME?

kalsplash

hahahaha
THAT WAS REALLY WORTH IT! THEY'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO CHASE US DOWN HERE!
.....
HAA HAA
smack
HAA HAA
COUGH
BUT WE DIDN'T DIE RIGHT? THEN EVERYTHING'S FINE?!
THAT'S NOT THE POINT!!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
YOU IDIOT! WHAT IF WE DIED?!
NO ANY-WAY
THAT
HEIKU
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU!!
IF IT WERE HEIKUROU..


.....
THANK YOU FOR SAVING ME
WHAT?
NO-THING
IF I TAKE A CLOSER LOOK YOU'RE REALLY CUTE
Smack
HEY
HOW DO YOU FEEL NOW AFTER BECOMING JUST HUMBLE SHUJI MATSUDAIRA?

THAT'S RIGHT
WELL, WE CAN TAKE OUR TIME AND ENJOY EVERYTHING
.....
PROBABLY... I'LL GET TO KNOW MORE THINGS FROM NOW ON
"TO GIVE UP IS TO PROGRESS"
MY BROTHER ONCE SAID
AH
YEAH

smash
STOP JOKING AROUND !!
NO MATTER HOW MUCH I'VE DEGRADED WHY THE HELL DO I HAVE TO EAT SUCH A THING?!
LIAR!!
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT? DON'T YOU KNOW HOW HARD I'VE HAD TO WORK FOR YOUR SAKE?
I AM NOT!!
IF SO THEN TELL ME
WHY DOES THIS FISH HAVE BONES?!
WHAT ?
pot

.....
EH??
ahahaha
SHURI-SAMA... A FISH ISN'T A FISH WITHOUT ITS BONES
stare~
HEIKU-ROU
THEN WHAT IS IT I'VE BEEN EATING UP TIL NOW?
BROTHER I HATE YOU...
GO ON YOUR OWN SHOT
THERE'RE STILL MANY THINGS I HAVE TO LEARN BUT
GUNJI!" LET'S GO TO THE BATHHOUSE BE MY ATTENDANT"
FROM NOW ON
I'M GOING TO GO MY OWN WAY